

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-13, 17, 18, and 20 remain in the application for consideration of the Examiner.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and objections are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and following remarks.

Turning now to the art rejections, Claims 1, 3-11, 17, 18, and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Chen; and Claims 12 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Chen in view of Watanabe.

These rejections are respectfully traversed.

It is respectfully submitted that Chen does not disclose or suggest the presently claimed invention including the method step of detecting the lowest pixel value among the adjacent pixels in independent Claim 1, albeit defined as detecting the lowest pixel value among the adjacent pixels in independent Claim 17.

The Examiner alleges that Chen discloses the lowest pixel values of adjacent pixels A and C by imaging logic 8 referring to column 6, line 30+ through column 7, line 10+.

Elements A, B, and C refer to luminance value, and not pixel values.

Chen defines a pixel as more than luminance.

Notwithstanding the allegations of the Examiner, Chen discloses at column 7, line 31 that in the event that pixel be under consideration is to determine to fall outside

the range of luminance values of its neighboring pixels A and C, and to deviate from its nearest neighboring pixel by more than the threshold t.

This does not disclose determining the lowest pixel.

Luminance is not pixel.

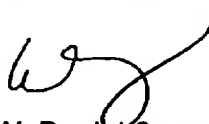
Watanabe does not cure the above noted defects.

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

While it is believed that the instant response places the application in condition for allowance, should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned in order to expeditiously resolve any outstanding issues.

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any fees in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Texas Instruments Incorporated, Account No. 20-0668.

Respectfully submitted,



W. Daniel Swayze, Jr.
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 34,478

Texas Instruments Incorporated
P.O. Box 655474, MS 3999
Dallas, TX 75265
(972) 917-5633

TI-32423 - 3 -